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23 September 1970

CONTACT REPORT

SUBJECT: Meeting with [REDACTED] ITT, New York -
17 September 1970

..... In the course of discussions with [REDACTED] he mentioned that Mr. Geneen, Chairman of the Board, ITT, and Mr. John McCone, Director and Member of the Executive Committee, ITT, had gone to Washington to meet with the Department of State on the subject of the then imminent Chilean election. By way of background, [REDACTED] stated that ITT planned to contribute \$300,000 to the election and he also stated that [REDACTED] several other US firms had joined with ITT [REDACTED] raising funds which would in their view assure Alessandri's success. The purpose of the McCone/Geneen visit to Washington, according to [REDACTED] was to seek a \$2,000,000 contribution from the U. S. Government. [REDACTED] said that Geneen and McCone had a series of discussions at the Department of State following which they met with Mr. Ehrlichman at The White House. Mr. Ehrlichman in turn called the DCI and arrangements were made for Mr. Geneen and Mr. McCone to meet with a senior Agency officer. On his return to New York, Mr. Geneen mentioned his astonishment and disappointment at having failed to solicit \$2,000,000 from the U. S. Government for this critical election. Geneen is reported also to have stated that \$2,000,000 plus the corporate contribution might well have made the difference in the outcome of the election. Geneen's estimate of costs (\$3,000,000) was based on information given ITT by Alessandri. Geneen further noted \$2,000,000 is not an exceptional sum, in fact, it is the, now not uncommon, cost of a Congressional election in the US. According to [REDACTED] Geneen also referred to a remark (presumably made after the election) which Geneen attributed to Mr. Kissinger in which he referred to the Chilean election as among the most serious (adverse) developments which have occurred during the Nixon administration.

Approved for Release
July 2000

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